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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-seventh session of the Commission/
eighteenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
20-24 April 1992

REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (TEPCOW) was held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 April to 18 April 1992. The meeting was formally opened by H.E. Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia. Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, also delivered a statement at the opening ceremony of the meeting. The representative of Togo expressed a vote of appreciation to the Government and People of Ethiopia for hosting the thirteenth meeting of TEPCOW.

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following member States of the Commission: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. Observers from the following Member States of the United Nations were present: China, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Holy See, Hungary, India, Italy, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey and Venezuela.

4. The following United Nations bodies and specialized agencies were represented: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Development (UN-DESD), United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labour Organisation (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Telecommunications Union (ITU), World Health Organization (WHO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS/HABITAT), United Nations University (UNU), World Food Council (WFC), World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

5. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was represented.

6. Observers were present from the following intergovernmental organizations: African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), African, Caribbean and Pacific Group (ACP), African Development Bank (ADB), African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research (AIHTTR), Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development (ARCC), African Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO), Banque de Développement des Etats des Grands Lacs (BDEGL), Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries (CEPGL), International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD), International Parliament for Safety and Peace (IPSP), Kagera Basin Organization (KBO), Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern

African States (PTA), Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys (RECTAS), Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS) and West African Clearing House (WACH).

7. Observers were also present from the following non-governmental organizations: Commonwealth Secretariat and Lutheran World Federation.

8. The Committee elected the following officers:

Chairman:	Nigeria
First Vice-Chairman:	-
Second Vice-Chairman:	Algeria
Rapporteur:	Lesotho

9. The Committee established an open-ended sub-committee chaired by the Second Vice-Chairman, to consider a draft communique and related resolutions for adoption by the Committee. The sub-committee had the following countries as its core members: Chad, Egypt, Ghana, Madagascar, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

B. AGENDA

10. On 13 April 1992, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

Conference theme: New directions for the Economic Commission for Africa

1. Opening of the meeting.

2. Election of officers.

3. Adoption of the agenda.

PART I. Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992

4.1 Economic Report on Africa 1992.

4.2 Biennial report of the Executive Secretary.

4.3 New directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s.

PART II. Transformation, recovery and adjustment

5. Implementation of regional development strategies: Update:

Progress report on implementation of regional development strategies (the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes

for Socio-economic Recovery and Development and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation).

PART III. Issues, studies and reports on regional cooperation for development in Africa

6A. Global economic integration issues in the region:

- Criteria for the identification of inter-subregional projects

6B. Sectoral issues on regional economic integration:

(i) Agriculture and environment:

The effectiveness of subregional and regional development projects in the agriculture and rural sector with special emphasis on environment and sustainable development;

(ii) Population issues in Africa:

Analysis of the current strategy for the population programme in Africa and the implications of recent developments, including funding policies, for its scope and prospects;

(iii) Information for development:

a. Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa;

b. The overall strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its sixteenth meeting in May 1990;

(iv) Transport and communications in Africa:

Progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa;

(v) Industrial development in Africa:

Programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

(vi) Natural resources and environment in Africa:

Report on the African Regional Preparatory Conference on Environment and Development;

(vii) Trade and development finance in Africa:

Report on Africa's preparation and participation in UNCTAD VIII.

7. **PART IV. Issues from subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers**

PART V. Statutory issues

8. Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and ECOSOC that are of interest to Africa:

   (a) Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers;

   (b) Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at the second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at the forty-fifth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa.

PART VI. Programme of work and priorities of the Commission

9. (a) Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work;

   (b) Progress report on ECA Regional Advisory Services;

   (c) Revision of the Medium-term Plan 1992-1997.

PART VII. Extrabudgetary resources and operational activities in ECA

10. A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for operational activities in ECA in the context of recent measures taken by major funding agencies of the United Nations, including the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Development Programme.

11. Any other business.

12. Date and venue of the fourteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole.

13. Adoption of the report.

14. Closure of the meeting.

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

Opening addresses

11. In his opening statement, H.E. Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia welcomed participants to the traditional stock taking of Africa's economic and social development and stressed that the work of regional organizations and institutions would have to take account of the new environment in which their

activities were unfolding. In that new environment, Africa had begun to design common positions and programmes such as the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development. Both documents reaffirmed the importance of peace and democracy to the socio-economic future of Africa and the importance of broad public participation if ambitious economic goals were to be achieved. He urged all member States to redouble their efforts to implement the African Charter in the light of their own evolving circumstances.

12. The Minister pointed out that the core strategy of the Lagos Plan of Action for the attainment of national and collective self-reliance remained important. In that regard, the acceleration of subregional economic cooperation and integration as well as the strengthening of the five Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) ought to be considered as the principal means of attaining the goals set. In his view, member States should rely, to the extent possible, on internal resources for the pursuit of Africa's development, recognizing where the national interest lay, and imposing that insight on the totality of development effort. For that to happen, the LPA and APPER should be reconciled with the structural adjustment programmes defined in dialogue with individuals and institutions from outside Africa. He found the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa a useful contribution to the ongoing dialogue for the development of Africa. In the current circumstances, African policy-makers should take the full measure of the human, financial and material resources that can and must be mobilized to ensure survival and growth. By using its own resources more fully and more efficiently than it had done in the past, Africa would increase the fruitfulness of the partnerships it forged with others.

13. Turning to the situation of his own country, he commended the unprecedented tolerance and farsightedness of its peoples, the leaders of opposition groups and the international community at large for having dispelled the threat of war, and the devastation it had caused. Rehabilitation and recovery were now the order of the day and from its past and severe sacrifices, Ethiopia hoped to win its future economic progress. The transition from war to peace and from totalitarian dictatorship to democracy had brought Ethiopia invaluable opportunities it hoped to seize as well as formidable challenges to which it would rise. Pursuant to the Addis Ababa Conference of Peace and Democracy held from 1 to 5 July 1991, Ethiopia had formulated an economic policy for the transitional period, and was planning to shift from a command economy to market-oriented economic development. It was already clear that Ethiopia's willingness to see economic agents largely guided by market signals was bringing increased outside assistance. For the progress to date, his appreciation went to all those who had helped make it possible. There remained, however, such difficulties as the problem of the demobilized soldiers of the defunct government, estimated at about 300,000, the large number of displaced persons, refugees and returnees, the need for a combined effort to provide relief to more than eight million persons on the verge of starvation and the rehabilitation of infrastructure throughout the country. The rehabilitation and redeployment work involved was beyond the present capability of the country. Aware of the threat that the transition from an overly-centralized and undemocratic state to a decentralized and democratic policy could pose to social stability, Ethiopia hoped that sister countries and the international community at large would help it to face the challenges.

14. In his statement, Mr. Issa B. Y. Diallo, Acting Executive Secretary of ECA welcomed participants to the thirteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole, and said that the statement of the Ethiopian Minister of Planning and Economic Development, would serve as a useful point of reference for the Committee's deliberations. He then pointed out that the Conference theme of "New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa" underlined the need for ECA member States and the secretariat to develop a response to the changes taking place on the international scene and in Africa. The Conference must determine what Africa must do to take

advantage of the historical changes transforming the globe and what ECA must do to strengthen its role as a major force in that process.

15. The Acting Executive Secretary drew the attention of the participants to the current ECA data which showed that the economic growth rate in the region had been only 2.3 per cent as compared to 3.2 per cent in 1990, and as compared to the region's annual population growth rate of 3 per cent. Education, health and employment had been the worst hit by the continued deterioration of social services. Agriculture had continued to depend more on rain than on irrigation, and had therefore been heavily affected by drought and other natural disasters. Internal conflicts continued in some subregions. The flight of capital persisted. Infrastructural reforms suffered from a lack of adequate resources to operationalize them, and more importantly, from lack of cooperation between African countries in such areas as transport, communications, finance and trade. External factors had also seriously constrained Africa's economic performance in 1991. Trade had suffered heavily from economic recession in the industrialized countries. The overall price of commodities and beverages had dropped by $US 2.8 billion from 1990. Another major impediment to regional growth originated from the external debt, which, estimated at $US 275.1 billion, constituted 72.8 per cent of regional GDP. Further, the preoccupation of the OECD countries with the emergency situation in Eastern Europe had combined with the conditionalities attached to financial aid to create a stagnation of the flow of external resources in 1991.

16. In spite of all that, he perceived signs of a potential for growth and sustainable development in the near future. The establishment of the African Economic Community was a step which would have to be fully supported by ECA, OAU, ADB and all subregional intergovernmental organizations. The transition to democracy in a number of countries was another significant development. As popular participation in political governance and socio-economic development gained ground in Africa, the management of economic and social infrastructure and broader participation in decision-making should improve.

17. The Acting Executive Secretary asserted that for ECA to remain a major force in Africa's socio-economic development, the organization would have to further strengthen its relationship with the Governments of member States. The exercise of joint responsibility for advocacy on African questions by ECA, OAU and ADB should be strengthened. ECA activities should be better harmonized with those of IGOs, the Bretton Woods institutions, professional associations, NGOs, the private sector and bilateral donors. Clear and concise tasks should be set for the MULPOCs, and realistic solutions found to the financial and management problems of the ECA-sponsored institutions.

18. Concerning the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 1991, Mr. Diallo pointed out that specific goals had been identified and had to be achieved within a specific time frame. The New Agenda was complemented by a United Nations System-wide Plan of Action, which would monitor and coordinate all United Nations System activities in Africa. Mr. Diallo hoped that the Conference would confirm its support for ECA's major role under the New Agenda to the international community, and direct the secretariat as to the priority areas that the 1993 report on the New Agenda should stress.

19. Regarding the other global issues, he urged the Conference (i) to make a statement on the importance of establishing self-reliant subregional trade, and to provide specific objectives and a time table for the development of a major initiative in this direction for the current biennium; (ii) to direct the secretariat in developing a major strategy for finding development solutions to environmental problems; (iii) to assure that both the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade and the Industrial Development Decade for Africa were being implemented

in a coordinated manner and to indicate if the tentative plan for coordination was moving in the right direction.

20. Similarly, he hoped that the Conference would consider the close connection between population factors, development, the environment and the agricultural economy, and direct the secretariat in producing a plan for integrating all four issues into a coherent strategy by the time of the next session in 1993. In the area of development information systems, the secretariat was seeking guidance on the manner in which its various databases could be integrated into a system networking from ECA. On a related issue, the meeting was also asked to consider how the Strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa could be effectively implemented.

21. Turning to the ongoing restructuring of the United Nations Secretariat, Mr. Diallo stated that the budget of the United Nations remained uncertain, and the role of the Organization was being questioned along with that of the regional commissions in the socio-economic development and integration of the various world regions. The Conference needed to reaffirm that role, and in doing so, produce bold and imaginative suggestions for advancement in economic and social development through regional co-operation.

22. The Acting Executive Secretary concluded by observing that in a fast-changing world where competition was becoming particularly fierce and the resources available for development and international cooperation obviously dwindling, and in a region such as Africa which was grappling with upheavals whose effects might well be long-lasting, ECA had to reflect the objective realities in its philosophy and action in both its work programme and operational activities, if it was to play its catalytic role in Africa's social and economic development. Since periods of crisis were the times when management capacity was most tested, Mr. Diallo asserted that everything should be done to maintain the credibility of the Commission. Given its human resources, ECA, would have to strike a balance between research and operational activities, making sure to stress the quality rather than the quantity of its outputs, focussing on those activities that make a real impact on Africa's economic and social development and using its resources and operations to maximum advantage through close cooperation with like-minded institutions such as OAU, ADB and the subregional groupings.

23. The representative of Togo delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of all delegates. He thanked Dr. Duri Mohammed, Minister of Planning and Economic Development and the Transitional Government and People of Ethiopia for their exemplary African hospitality. He particularly commended the efforts that had been made by the Transitional Government to rebuild and democratize the country, and also hoped that the statement of the Minister would be a useful source of reference during the imminent deliberations.

24. He also expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Issa B.Y. Diallo, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Secretary of ECA for his lucid statement, for the high quality of the documents made available to the delegates and, more particularly, for the preparation of document E/ECA/CM.18/Summary which summarized all issues referred to the meeting. He then exhorted the secretariat to keep up the good work, and urged the delegates to prepare concrete recommendations to be transmitted to the ministers for their consideration and approval.

PART I

Preliminary review of Africa's economic and social performance in 1991 and prospects for 1992 (agenda item 4)

Economic Report on Africa 1992 (agenda item 4.1)

25. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/2: Economic Report on Africa 1992.

26. Under this agenda item, the Committee examined an overview of Africa's economic performance in 1991, and the main underlying factors. Based on preliminary data, overall regional output had grown at a rate of about 2.3 per cent. This was a decline from the 3.2 per cent growth rate for 1990, and was due to the severe recession affecting the OECD countries, which depressed demand and prices of Africa's exports of oil and metallic minerals; the continued weakness of tropical agricultural beverage commodities; economic retrenchment accompanying programmes of structural adjustment and liberalization in many countries; continued structural weaknesses in the regional economy; social and political unrest accompanying the process of democratization; and civil war situations in some countries.

27. In 1991, North Africa appeared to have posted the strongest growth (3.4 per cent), followed by West Africa (3.2 per cent), Southern Africa (1.5 per cent), Eastern Africa (1.3 per cent), and Central Africa (-3.6 per cent). Agricultural output increased by 2.5 per cent in 1991, due to better-than-average rainfall conditions in all subregions except Eastern and Southern Africa. The Committee took note of continued weakness in the manufacturing sector, with the possibility that there was a further reduction in the rate of capacity utilization due, in part, to the scarcity of hard currency for essential imported inputs.

28. The Committee also took note of the deterioration in Africa's terms of trade and lack of improvement in the region's share of world trade, which remained at a mere 2.2 per cent. Preliminary estimates indicated that the region's balance of payments deteriorated from $US 2.5 billion in 1990 to about $US 7.3 billion in 1991. Taking into account declines in private transfer payments, the account deficit for 1991 was estimated at about $US 8.9 billion. A slight contraction of 0.7 per cent was noted in Africa's external debt to $US 275.1 billion outstanding at the end of 1991. On the social front, the Committee acknowledged the continued breakdown in social services, the deterioration in all indicators of social well-being and the deepening of poverty throughout Africa in the wake of structural economic reforms.

29. Looking ahead to 1992, the Committee noted that prospects for modest regional economic recovery could depend on the strength of the recovery in the OECD countries and the extent to which this stimulated demand for African exports; stabilization of social and political conditions in the wake of the democratization process; economic liberalization and social transformation policies; and favourable weather conditions throughout the region.

30. The Committee called for the strengthening of the analytical aspects of the economic report, in order to give a fuller account not only of the causes underlying Africa's dismal socio-economic performance, but also concrete policy measures which should be undertaken to improve the situation. Analysis of the policies undertaken by member States would also lead to a useful exchange of countries' experiences. In order to address the intractable problem of lack of food self-sufficiency in Africa, the Committee recommended that member States accord top priority to the agricultural sector among all production sectors; offer more attractive incentives; improve agricultural competitiveness and productivity; and diversify their economies away from the traditional "cash" crops

whose world markets had weakened due to persistent oversupply. On the question of civil strife, the Committee suggested that ECA should attempt to evaluate the opportunity costs of the subsequent destruction wreaked on national infrastructures.

31. Additional information on individual countries was provided to the Committee for incorporation, including more up-to-date production and export statistics, and the experiences of various countries on economic, structural and policy reforms which they had undertaken. The Committee also noted the suggestion that the joint publication of the Economic Report on Africa by ECA and ADB secretariats be revived, which would necessitate the submission of data on a regular basis by member States.

32. It was the Committee's opinion that the secretariat's forecast of 3.6 per cent growth in the regional economic performance in 1992 was rather optimistic. The underlying assumptions regarding the strength of the expected recovery among the OECD countries, as well as the translation of this recovery into demand for Africa's traditional exports was open to question. Similarly, the Committee felt that the impact of the severe drought affecting Eastern and Southern Africa had not been adequately taken into account.

33. It suggested that future reports should focus on policy directions that would achieve regional economic and social objectives, such as those set in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. Noting that some of the data was rendered in terms of national currencies, the Committee recommended that an attempt should be made in future to supply a table of nominal exchange rates of national currencies in terms of a common denominator.

Biennial report of the Executive Secretary, 1990-1991 (agenda item 4.2)

34. Under this agenda item, the meeting considered document E/ECA/CM.18/3. The Committee noted that during the period under review (1990-1991) several policy organs had met and adopted legislative decisions aimed at enhancing the performance of the secretariat. Among the major results of the said decisions were the General Assembly's approval of additional funds in support of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP); and the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs); the launching of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa and the Second United Nations Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000). The Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Teams (MRAG), a group of senior advisors designed to assist member States to attain the objectives of economic cooperation and integration through a multidisciplinary approach to self-reliant development and structural transformation was established.

35. The Committee further noted that several efforts intended to revitalize the operational framework of the Commission had been pursued. The vacancy rate of the secretariat was reduced from 25.7 per cent in 1988-1989 to below 8.5 per cent in 1990-1991. Pursuant to the General Assembly resolution to increase the representation of professional women in the secretariat, the total number of professional women at ECA as of December 1991 was 36 or 17 per cent of ECA staff. Every effort was being made to further increase the proportion of female staff at the secretariat, including their appointment at higher levels. Similarly, the Committee noted that 1991 had marked the beginning of full-scale office automation in ECA, and that that had entailed a massive training programme for staff. In view of the limited regular budget and declining extrabudgetary resources, the Secretariat intended to step up its efforts in the mobilization of extrabudgetary resources in the coming biennium.

36. With regard to the performance of the secretariat, the Committee noted that the programme performance at output level for the biennium 1990-1991 was 91 per cent as compared to 88 per cent in the 1988-1989 biennium.

37. The Committee took note of the report with the observations that cooperation between ECA and subregional intergovernmental institutions should be enhanced especially at the operational level, in order to benefit from each other's experiences. In this regard, cooperation with the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) was encouraged and it was agreed that ECA would incorporate the data already collected by CILSS in its report. The Committee also drew attention to a number of outstanding issues related to the ongoing improvement of the secretariat, which were not covered in the Report. It understood, however, that such issues would be raised under the agenda item relating to the new direction for the Economic Commission for Africa. The Committee also expressed the view that the editorial aspects of the report should be improved.

New Directions for the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s (agenda item 4.3)

38. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled the Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A policy and Management Framework for Facing Africa's Development Challenges.

39. The Committee noted that the document was largely based on the report of a Task Force established by the Acting Executive Secretary in November, 1991 and insights of ECA staff, as well as consultations with ECA's main collaborating partners. The Committee commended the Acting Executive Secretary for his initiatives and efforts at charting new directions for the Commission for the 1990s. It noted that the changes that have taken place in Africa and the rest of the world in the past few years and the accompanying challenges justified adjustments in ECA's policy orientation, programmes and management capacity with a view to ensuring greater impact of its activities. Such a reorientation was consistent with the reforms already underway in the rest of the United Nations System. The Committee accordingly urged the Acting Executive Secretary to pursue vigorously the implementation of the various proposals contained in the document. However the view was expressed that the report of the Task Force should have been circulated to the member States for in-depth study.

40. The Committee also requested the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is solidly based on the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA namely strengthening ECA's advisory role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting of private initiatives and entrepreneurship; development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; achieving structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promotion of women in development.

41. The Committee considered the areas of focus and recognized that they were established to galvanize programme delivery in the existing sectoral and overall priorities already established by the Commission. In doing so it recognized that the areas are neither a substitute for existing subprogrammes nor new priorities. They represented basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA with respect to African development.

42. The Committee observed that the document provided useful suggestions with regard to ECA's assistance to member States in order to foster their economic development and transformation in the 1990s. It observed that ECA's past achievements had been considerable but that ECA had not paid sufficient attention to promoting itself and its products. In this regard, the Committee recommended that improving ECA's image and publicizing its products should be one of the key elements of ECA's approach in the 1990s. ECA should strike a desirable balance between research and analysis and operational activities. To that end, the Commission was urged to seek extrabudgetary resources to support additional operational activities.

43. The Committee underscored the need for ECA to foster closer cooperation with other African regional organizations, United Nations agencies, the private sector, NGOs and universities. It noted that some of ECA's main achievements resulted from inter-agency collaboration. In this regard, particular stress was placed on the need for ECA to intensify collaboration with OAU and ADB and to harmonize their programmes and activities, to the extent possible, with a view to ensuring that the full potentials of African institutions and organizations were mobilized for the promotion of Africa's development. The Committee supported ECA's approach of fostering closer links with member States and suggested that this should involve using the existing arrangements more innovatively. The Committee also endorsed closer operational cooperation between ECA and the Bretton Woods institutions.

44. The Committee observed that member States had high expectations of the MULPOCs when they were established. The concept remained sound and valid, insofar as their activities brought ECA closer to the member States and various subregional groups. There was a need, however, to revitalize them in order that they can be of better service to the subregional economic groupings.

45. The Committee also expressed the view that the ECA-sponsored institutions should be streamlined and rationalized. It observed that there were problems of funding for many of them. It therefore proposed that ECA should undertake an in-depth study with a view to rationalizing these institutions. The Committee further urged the Commission to harmonize the activities of its sponsored institutions with those of other subregional economic institutions.

46. The Committee also underlined the need to further rationalize ECA conferences and meetings as to their number, the substance of their agenda, the length and number of documents. There was also need to harmonize ECA and OAU meetings to avoid duplication and overlap.

47. The Committee recognized the need for reforms in the structure of the secretariat to achieve full consistence with the new orientation proposed in the policy document and recommended that the Commission should monitor and review its performance annually.

48. Finally, the Committee took note of the document and decided that the various proposals for strengthening ECA, in the light of the discussions on the policy paper, should be embodied in a resolution for consideration by the Committee and subsequent adoption by the Conference of Ministers.

49. The Committee adopted draft resolutions 1 (XIII) and 2 (XIII).

PART II

TRANSFORMATION, RECOVERY AND ADJUSTMENT

Implementation of regional development strategies: Update:

Progress report on implementation of regional development strategies (the Lagos Plan of Action, the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Development and the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation) (agenda item 5)

50. Under this agenda item, the Committee examined document E/ECA/CM.18/5.

51. The Committee took note of the activities undertaken during the period 1990-1991 as follow-up to regional development strategies. Senior officials of the OAU, ECA and ADB secretariats had met twice to discuss ways of revitalizing the Lagos Plan of Action, while deliberations on the Final Act of Lagos at Abuja, Nigeria in June 1991 had led to the signing of the Treaty on the establishment of the African Economic Community. As regards the United Nations Programme for African Economic Recovery and Development (UN-PAAERD), the General Assembly, on 18 December 1991, passed a resolution on the Final Review and Appraisal of UN-PAAERD which contained its follow-up programme, the United Nations New Agenda for the development of Africa during the 1990s. The Committee further noted that the secretariat had published the "Selected Policy Instruments" on the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes (AAF-SAP) and a popular version of AAF-SAP both of which had been widely distributed. In the same vein, various meetings had been organized for groups representing various African interests and the international community to discuss the issue of structural adjustment. Member States were encouraged to make use of AAF-SAP when formulating their Policy Framework Papers prior to negotiations with Bretton Woods Institutions. The Committee also noted that the operationalization of popular participation had been given a fresh boost during 1990-1991 by the process of democratization that had become widespread across the continent. Other activities undertaken by ECA, the NGOs, the media, communication organs, organized labour and women and youth groups were conducted with a view to ensuring greater popular participation in development.

52. While recognizing that African countries were primarily responsible for implementing the development strategies, the Committee noted that ECA had yet to provide the countries with adequate assistance in the formulation of their macroeconomic development policies. The decentralization of ECA activities to the MULPOCs could, to a certain extent, redress that situation.

53. With regard to the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa during the 1990s, the Committee agreed that concrete measures should be adopted by Africa and the international community for the attainment of its objectives.

54. The Committee agreed on the central role that popular participation had to play in development and urged member States to step up their efforts towards the implementation of the Charter on Popular Participation in Development and Transformation.

55. It was recommended that comprehensive studies on the reorientation of the consumption patterns of African countries should be undertaken by the secretariat in an attempt to align them with their production processes. The secretariat was requested to increasingly involve member States in the design and development of strategies and to undertake specific actions for the sustained implementation of the existing strategies.

56. The secretariat was urged to intensify and improve its assistance to member countries in order to better integrate the provisions of AAF-SAP in the planning of long-term strategies.

57. The Committee took note of the document and adopted draft resolution 3 (XIII).

PART III

ISSUES, STUDIES AND REPORTS ON REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

Global Economic Integration Issues in the Region:

Criteria for identifying inter-subregional projects [agenda item 6(a)]

58. Under this agenda item, the Committee reviewed document E/ECA/CM/18/6 entitled "Criteria for selection of inter-subregional projects".

59. The Committee reviewed the criteria approved for identifying subregional projects as well as those used for two regional programmes, namely the first United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, 1978-1988 (UNTACDA I) and the first Industrial Development Decade for Africa, 1980-1990 (IDDA I). The Committee then reviewed the criteria used by certain subregional economic groupings and considered the proposed criteria for selecting inter-subregional projects within the context of the African Economic Community.

60. The Committee recommended that the document should be sent to the various existing subregional structures for possible discussion and use as an orientation document. It requested ECA to disseminate progress reports of subregional integration programmes in order that they might be better understood and to facilitate follow-up activities at national and subregional levels. It was recommended that studies and economic integration programmes should draw from the current relevant experience in the world. ECA should send a mission to all existing subregional economic integration organizations in Africa in order to have better knowledge of their programmes. Discussions should also be held amongst subregional organizations for mutual improvement of their programmes.

61. The Committee noted with satisfaction the "PTA Trade and Development Strategy" adopted by the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) in the 1990s for the established of a common market by the Year 2000.

62. Member States were urged to fulfil the commitments that they had made at the levels of subregional and regional organizations.

Agriculture and environment

The effectiveness of regional and subregional development projects in the agricultural and rural sector, with particular emphasis on environment and sustainable development [agenda item 6B(i)]

63. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/7 on the Effectiveness of Regional and Subregional Development Projects in the Agricultural and Rural Sector, with Particular Emphasis on Environment and Sustained Development.

64. It noted the major shortcomings identified and analyzed during the design and implementation of national, subregional and regional projects in the agricultural and rural sector. In particular, it observed that many projects were developed with minimal consultation with the intended beneficiaries and without giving adequate consideration to the problems of recurrent costs or the question of externalities, notably environmental degradation. Furthermore, the designers of projects often overlooked the concerns and the problems of small farmers, had a bias for cash crops and used benchmark prices in the computation of the internal rate of return (IRR) of projects, which did not reflect the true social costs of the country concerned. In addition, dumping and other market distortions rendered the results of the assessment of vital development projects bias.

65. The Committee noted that because of the poor performance of agricultural and rural development projects, Africa had failed to achieve a reasonable level of food security based on collective self-reliance. Projections showed that to ensure access to the food that the population of the year 2010 will need, African governments would have to spend more than double the projected agricultural export proceeds on food imports.

66. The Committee observed that the responsibility for failure to attain food self-sufficiency was shared between the international and national experts who designed and carried out numerous projects without proper consultation with the intended beneficiaries. There had been little effective participation of the rural communities, notably women.

67. The Committee endorsed the idea of developing agricultural and rural projects within a programme framework, based on increased measures of individual and collective self-reliance. This would ensure sustainable growth and development leading to structural transformation of the rural sector. It emphasized the need to preserve the environment and to use the Domestic Resource Cost (DRC) in developing the budgets for projects.

68. In developing projects related to increasing productivity in the food and agricultural sector, the Committee cautioned against the use of alien technologies which often were not adapted to the socio-economic and natural environment of the African country concerned. This often resulted in the degradation of the environment and the resource base without contributing effectively to increased productivity or sustaining production. The development of technologies should be based, as much as possible, on the existing ones and attempts should be made to use local materials and expertise.

69. The Committee emphasized the need for ECA to assist member States individually and collectively to create an enabling environment for the structural transformation of the food and agricultural sector within the framework of subregional and regional economic groupings; it also urged sectoral intergovernmental organizations to ensure food security at both national and household levels.

70. The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the recommendations contained in it.

Population issues in Africa:

Analysis of the current strategy for the population programme in Africa and the implications of recent developments, including funding policies for its scope and prospects [agenda item 6 B(ii)]

71. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/8 which discussed population issues in Africa and their implications for the operation of the African Regional Population Programme (ARPP).

72. The Committee examined the major population issues in the region that had led to the deterioration of living conditions and the physical environment. They included rapid population growth rates, mobility of population groups as a result of man-made and natural calamities, insufficient goods and services that were also inequitably distributed, and the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

73. The Committee noted that it was important for countries to balance their economic and population growth rates. In this respect, it encouraged the countries that had not yet formulated population and development policies aimed at attaining the above objective to do so and to integrate them in their short-, medium- and long-term development plans. In addition, the Committee urged African countries to intensify population education programmes in the region from the primary level to the post formal education stages, and to involve both the male and female segments of the population in family planning programmes and policies.

74. The Committee appealed to all funding agencies engaged in population activities, particularly UNFPA, to provide increased resources to ECA, national institutions and other relevant organizations in the African region. It also emphasized that the research findings of these institutions should be disseminated as widely as possible, and utilized in development planning.

75. The Committee welcomed the invitation of the Government of Senegal to host the third African Population Conference in Dakar, in November 1992. It strongly recommended that African countries should endeavour to participate in the Dakar Conference, and later in the fourth United Nations International Population Conference to be held in 1994 in order to ensure that African Governments and Institutions benefitted from them.

76. The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the recommendations contained therein.

Information for development

Information needs in the light of the emerging African economic community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa [agenda item 6 B (iii)a.]

77. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/9 entitled Information needs in the light of the emerging African Economic Community and policy implications in the acquisition and utilization of information technology in Africa.

78. The Committee noted that data and information were central to socio-economic development planning in identification of options and in elaboration of strategies; this need became greater as the scale of planning enlarged and as the region moved toward the implementation of the African Economic Community. It was observed that timely information was critically needed both from within and outside Africa.

79. The Committee further noted that the information infrastructure in Africa was largely unprepared for the challenges posed by information needs of development planning in the 1990s. Planners had outlined their information needs and had underscored their dissatisfaction with existing information infrastructure in their countries.

80. Some problems of the present information infrastructure in Africa which were noted by the Committee included: inadequate organization of existing data/information; insufficient use of existing facilities and resources; insensitivity of information structures to the needs of development planners; and lack of appreciation by decision makers, in many countries, of the role of information.

81. The Committee observed that while information technology, particularly in the form of computers was well disseminated in Africa at the government level, within parastatal organizations and the private sector, their potential for information access and exchange had yet to be exploited. The impact of computers and telecommunications facilities on the quality of socio-economic information in the region had been negligible.

82. The Committee agreed that the "appropriate technology" issue was a false one in information technology which prevented Africa from being competitive. Africa could bypass technology generations and acquire the most up-to-date tools, particularly because, in contrast to other technologies, the prices of information technology were constantly falling drastically.

83. In order to get information technology to serve Africa's development planning needs, the Committee agreed that the following policies should be adopted:

(a) A common approach at national, subregional and regional levels to hardware acquisition and use which would promote compatibility, facilitate information exchange and sharing of scarce resources, including expertise. This would facilitate the development of information networks and save foreign currency;

(b) Human resources development to facilitate self-reliance in the use of information technology and to correct the shortfall in technological skills; and

(c) Telecommunications development to promote information access and exchange.

84. The committee noted with satisfaction the work of PADIS in sensitizing African member States to the use of information technology for development. It urged African member States and the international community to lend support to PADIS in its endeavour to assist African member States in the development and strengthening of information infrastructures.

85. The Committee further noted with satisfaction the creation of a Working Group on ECA's Information Systems which was intended to help the secretariat integrate its activities in this area. This was the first step towards the development of an information network that would provide an effective information base for the African Economic Community. The Committee expressed the hope that the necessary resources would be available for this purpose.

86. The Committee took note of the document.

The overall strategy for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s as adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its sixteenth meeting in May, 1990 [agenda item 6B (iii)b.]

87. The Committee reviewed document E/ECA/CM.18/10: Proposals for accelerated implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of action for statistical development in Africa in the 1990s.

88. Under this agenda item, the Committee noted the historical background to the Addis Ababa Plan of Action, and the draft strategy for its implementation which was considered and adopted by a working group in Nairobi in July 1991.

89. The Committee further noted that the level and quality of African statistics had deteriorated during the 1970s and 1980s due to economic crises that led to public spending cuts, weak interest in quantitative information in the process of economic planning, competition between external and internal statistics, inadequate infrastructure for data and information gathering, analysis and dissemination and poor management of statistical services.

90. The Committee considered selected measures for the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action. It was noted that there was no ready framework that was applicable to all countries.

91. The measures considered were:

(a) The establishment of National Needs Assessment or Programme Review and Strategy Development (NA/PRSD) Teams to evaluate past experience and identify needs and priorities and to devise an appropriate five to ten-year statistics development plan on the basis of the evaluation results;

(b) Celebration of the eighteenth day of November as African Statistics Day by all member States, with activities designed to promote awareness on the importance of statistics; and

(c) Coordination at the national and regional levels, of producers of statistics, on one hand, users, and bilateral and multilateral donors, on the other.

92. The Committee also recommended that National Boards of Statistics should be set up as autonomous bodies. Such boards should provide statistical guidelines and develop means of defraying some of their operating costs by marketing their products and services.

93. To increase the usefulness of African statistics in socio-economic planning, and in addressing grass-roots concerns, the Committee recommended that statistical activities should be extended beyond national accounts and macroeconomic statistics, to the level of districts and communities. Besides generating socio-economic data, the Committee expressed the need for coverage of the informal sector.

94. The Committee recommended that a study should be carried out on reducing the high turn-over of trained statisticians from national bureaus of statistics. It was also necessary to build statistics capability in Africa at the national level and to place more emphasis on the training of statisticians. At the regional level, the Committee recommended that ECA's Statistics Division should be strengthened in order for ECA to become the primary source of socio-economic statistics on Africa.

95. The Committee took note of the document and endorsed the actions recommended in paragraph 64 of the document.

Transport and communications in Africa:
Progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II) [agenda item 6 B(iv)]

96. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/11 entitled: Progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa (UNTACDA II).

97. The Committee took note of the activities that had been undertaken from May 1991 to April 1992. These activities fell under three categories: (a) the preparation and adoption of the programme; (b) the launching of UNTACDA II; and (c) coordination and mobilization of resources for the implementation of UNTACDA II.

98. The Committee noted that the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa had been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1988. It was formally launched in November 1991 during the Symposium jointly organized by the Belgian Académie Royale des Sciences d'Outre-Mer, ECA, ACP and United Nations Information and Liaison Centre in Brussels. The last day of the Symposium had been devoted to the promotion of UNTACDA II through the organization of a round table with donors and members of the Resource Mobilization Committee. One hundred and fifty experts from more than 50 countries, 20 representatives of donors institutions and countries participated in this round table. The Committee also noted that the donors had agreed to mobilize their efforts to develop transport and communications in Africa within the framework of UNTACDA II. It particularly welcomed the memorandum signed by the World Bank and ECA inviting donors participating in the sub-Saharan Africa's Special Transport Programme (SSATP) to embark upon activities compatible with those defined in the UNTACDA II memorandum. That document recognized ECA's leadership and coordinating role in the implementation of the programme of the Decade.

99. The Committee suggested that the implementation of the programme should be carried out in a way that assured proper linkages with other economic sectors. In this regard, it called for more coordination between UNTACDA II and IDDA II. Moreover, it requested that a review of guidelines for project identification be finalized and made available to member States, especially those related to railway projects. It was felt that more emphasis should be placed on research in the areas of maintenance of transport equipment, transport modes and applied research for alleviating the burden on women, who carried most of the goods from rural to urban areas. It further requested the

secretariat to devise ways and means, including direct investments, for the rapid implementation of the Decade, and to report to the next session.

100. On the harmonization of the implementation of UNTACDA II and IDDA II, the Committee urged ECA to prepare a plan of action for the harmonization of the activities of the two decades and to present it for consideration by the next meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of transport, communications and planning. The conclusions of that Conference will be reviewed by the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers.

101. The Committee recommended that a special fund should be established at the national level by the transport sector for the maintenance of transport infrastructure. It also urged member States to establish their respective National Coordinating Committees (NCC) in order to assist in the effective implementation of UNTACDA II. In that connection, the Committee expressed its appreciation to the United Nations General Assembly for allocating resources to the programme, and hoped that additional resources would be forthcoming during future stages of implementation.

102. The Committee adopted draft Decision Dec. 1 (XIII).

Industrial Development in Africa

Programme for the United Nations second Industrial Development Decade for Africa [agenda item 6B(v)]

103. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/12. It reviewed actions taken at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and United Nations General Assembly levels on Commission resolution 709(XXVI) concerning the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II) (1991-2000), which was adopted by the seventeenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers. It also took note of the relevant resolutions and decisions taken at the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry and the fourth session of the General Conference of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the 1992 second regular session of the ECOSOC.

104. The Committee underlined the importance of mobilizing domestic resources for the implementation of IDDA II. Some of the measures that the Committee felt would ensure the success of IDDA II were the integration of IDDA programmes at national and subregional levels, the encouragement and full involvement of the private sector in the implementation of industrialization in the region, the mobilization of human, scientific and financial investment resources from domestic and foreign sources for project implementation in the region, the effective support and use of national and subregional institutions for Research and Development linked to production and the formulation of policies for strengthening African scientific and technological capability in industry.

105. The Committee further underlined the need for ECA to harmonize its IDDA-related activities with other relevant organizations, including various African subregional organizations, the African Development Bank, the Organization of African Unity, UNIDO, the World Bank and United Nations specialized agencies involved in industrial development.

106. The Committee also stressed the need for coordination between the programme of the second IDDA and that of the second UNTACDA for an effective industrial and economic integration. The Committee then requested the secretariat to prepare a Plan of Action for the harmonization of activities of the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and of the second United Nations

Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and to present it for consideration by the next meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. The nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers would then review the conclusions of that Conference.

107. In the light of the above observations, the Committee appealed through member States to UNDP Governing Council to allocate adequate resources for the second IDDA during UNDP's Fifth Programming Cycle for Africa (1992-1996). It also recommended the adoption of the programme of the second IDDA and its submission to the General Assembly through ECOSOC for endorsement. The Committee further requested that an appeal be made to the General Assembly to provide ECA with additional resources required for the implementation of the second IDDA.

108. The Committee adopted draft Decision Dec.2 (XIII).

Natural resources and environment in Africa
Report of the African regional preparatory conference on environment and development [agenda item 6B (vi)]

109. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/13 entitled "Africa's preparations for the United Nations conference on environment and development".

110. The Committee noted that the African Programme for Environment and Development included the following items: food self-sufficiency and security; efficient and equitable use of water resources; management of marine and coastal resources; increasing energy self-sufficiency; effective control of demographic changes and pressure; development of human settlement planning and management; optimizing industrial production and pollution control; management of biological and bio-technological diversity; mitigation of global warming and climatic change; protection and regeneration of the tropical forest; reversal of desertification in Africa; human resources development; popular participation; development of environmental legislation; creating awareness on the environment; management of solid and toxic wastes; environmental revival; elimination of poverty; drought monitoring; development of science and technology; health; the fight against the effects of natural disasters; environmental measures in land-locked countries; and minimization of the effects of refugees on the environment and on development. The Committee then considered the African common position on the African Programme for Environment and Development. It also reviewed the role of African regional institutions and United Nations agencies in the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED).

111. The Committee expressed gratitude to the secretariat for the activities undertaken within the context of Africa's preparations for UNCED. The Committee sought clarification about the strategies adopted to mobilize resources for implementing Africa's Environment and Development Programme, and on Africa's position regarding the management of marine and coastal resources, an issue which was of major concern to countries bordering the Indian Ocean.

112. The Committee suggested that member States should establish institutional and regulatory measures on environmental protection for better management of the sector. It also requested intergovernmental organizations to include issues on environmental protection in their programmes. Noting that the environment was an issue around which developed and developing countries had a sense of interdependence, the Committee emphasized that multilateral cooperation was necessary in order to safeguard the planet. The Committee urged ECA to provide assistance to member States in that regard and to consider natural resources issues separately from environmental issues, particularly where they constituted important assets to the nation.

113. Finally, an appeal was made to the member States to participate actively and at the highest possible level in the Rio de Janeiro Conference in June 1992, considering that the Rio Conference is a World Summit that will frame the earth charter on environment.

Trade and development finance in Africa:
Report on Africa's preparations for and participation in the eighth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD VIII) [agenda item 6B (vii)]

114. The Committee considered the "Report on Africa's preparation for and participation in the eighth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development" (UNCTAD VIII), documents E/ECA/CM.18/14 and E/ECA/CM.18/14 Add.1.

115. The Committee took note of the various activities undertaken by Africa in the context of UNCTAD VIII. In accordance with one of the recommendations of the eleventh Conference of African Ministers of Trade, a meeting had been held in Lusaka, Zambia, to adopt a common position for UNCTAD VIII negotiations. That position was presented under the name of the "Lusaka Declaration". Subsequently, the seventh Ministerial meeting of the Group of 77 (G.77) was held in Tehran, Iran to adopt a single text on the position of the G.77. During that meeting, it was apparent that the traditional solidarity of the G.77 had eroded. Africa was, therefore, obliged to carry out its multilateral negotiations alone.

116. The Committee felt that the non-reflection of Africa's interests in the UNCTAD negotiations was inter-alia due to its poor participation, as the size of Africa's diplomatic representation in Geneva clearly testified. The Committee noted that the negotiation frameworks offered by UNCTAD and the GATT were important for Africa, and that the continent should strive to improve its position in the negotiations. ECA, OAU and ADB were important fora for defining Africa's interests on the international scene, and should therefore be fully utilized.

117. In order to offset the loss of the G.77 solidarity, the Committee recommended that Africa should strengthen cooperation among her regional institutions, namely, OAU, ADB and ECA and increase her representations at Geneva. Africa should also take advantage of the cooperation framework offered by the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and the "Strategies for Revitalization, Recovery and Growth of African Trade in the 1990s and Beyond", as adopted by the extraordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade in December 1990.

118. The Committee took note of the report on Africa's preparations for and participation in UNCTAD VIII.

PART IV

Issues from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers (agenda item 7)

119. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/15 and its two addenda on issues from the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies of the Commission calling for action by the Conference of Ministers. Part I of the document contained issues brought to the attention of the Commission, but not requiring any action on its part. Part II contained issues calling for action by the Commission.

120. The Committee noted a change in the presentation of the resolutions of subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies as their reports were not presented along with the resolutions. It reviewed the resolutions and provided guidance to the Committee on resolutions before considering their endorsement and subsequently recommending them to the Conference of Ministers in its eighteenth session, for adoption.

121. The Committee considered a proposal to institute a Conference of African Ministers of Science and Technology for Development and cautioned against increases in the subsidiary organs and sectoral bodies. It drew attention to current attempts to rationalize and streamline meetings and conferences. Accordingly, it requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted to the next session of the Commission on the possibilities for establishing such a Conference.

122. The Committee regretted that some of the ECA-sponsored working institutions were unable to fully carry out their activities for lack of financial support from member States. It recommended that the budget of ACMAD should be approved and the required resources should be mobilized urgently.

123. On the composition of the Board of Governors of IDEP, the Committee recommended that existing vacancies in the following subregions should be filled:

North Africa:	Tunisia Sudan
West Africa:	Guinea Nigeria Togo
Central Africa:	Cameroon Burundi
Eastern and Southern Africa:	Namibia pending confirmation

124. The Committee took note of the document and adopted the following resolutions and decisions: 4(XIII); 5(XIII); 6(XIII); 7(XIII); 8(XIII); 9(XIII); 10(XIII); 11(XIII); 12(XIII); 13(XIII); 14(XIII); 15(XIII); and 16(XIII). The Committee also recommended the endorsement of the following decisions: Dec. 3(XIII); Dec. 4(XIII); Dec. 5(XIII) and Dec. 6(XIII).

PART V

STATUTORY ISSUES

Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that are of interest to Africa (agenda item 8)

- **Follow-up action on relevant resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth session of the Commission/seventeenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers [agenda item 8(a)]**

- **Resolutions adopted by ECOSOC at its second regular session of 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in the economic and social sectors that are of interest to Africa [agenda item 8(b)]**

125. The Committee considered and noted documents E/ECA/CM.18/16 and E/ECA/CM.18/17 complemented by General Assembly resolution 46/151 and its annexes.

PART VI

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSION

Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work [agenda item 9(a)]

126. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/18: Proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work.

127. Under this agenda item, the Committee considered the editorial variations that had arisen between documents E/ECA/CM.17/25/Rev.1 (the proposed work programme approved by the twelfth session of TEPCOW) and A/46/6/Rev.1 Supplement No. 6 (which was endorsed by the General Assembly). The Committee sought and received assurance from the secretariat that the listed activities for collaboration, harmonization and liaison with intergovernmental organizations in the ECA region and additional activities under IDDA II and UNTACDA II, could be accommodated within the existing budgetary limits and, thus, had no additional financial implications. The Committee then noted that activities under IDDA II and UNTACDA II particularly had been provided for under a separate General Assembly resolution 46/458.

128. The Committee recommended that the proposals for updating the 1992-1993 programme of work listed in document E/ECA/CM.18/18, should be adopted as amended.

Progress Report on ECA Regional Advisory Services
[agenda item 9(b)]

129. Under this agenda item, the Committee examined document E/ECA/CM.18/19, entitled "Progress report on the new orientation of ECA advisory services during the 1990s".

130. The Committee noted with satisfaction the formation of the Multidisciplinary Regional Advisory Group (ECA-MRAG), and agreed that the group would be useful in assisting member States to find lasting solutions to their economic development problems. The Committee further noted the activities that had been carried out by the Group, and endorsed the proposed work programme for 1992.

131. The Committee, however, emphasized that in order for the ECA-MRAG to be effective, adequate resources, both human and financial, should be put at the disposal of the Group and cautioned that experts of the Group should demonstrate commitment to the regional and subregional programmes. The Committee further emphasized that the activities of the ECA-MRAG should continue to be harmonized with those of the MULPOCs.

132. Taking cognizance of the limited resources at the disposal of the Group, the Committee felt that industry and transport and communications sectors were important in most African countries and that advisory services in those sectors, should be accorded the priority they deserved by the Group. It noted that the Group was updating brochures on its activities and urged that they be distributed widely to all African member States.

Revision of the Medium-term Plan, 1992-1997

First Revision of the Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997 [agenda item 9(c)]

133. The Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/20: "First Revision of the Medium-term Plan for the Period 1992-1997".

134. Under this agenda item, the Committee discussed proposed revisions in the 1992-1997 Medium-term Plan (MTP) arising from: (a) recommendations of the Task Force on the Review and Appraisal of the Policy Orientation, Programme and Management Capacity of ECA with regard to regrouping the Commission's activities; (b) the efforts pending from 1990 to disaggregate the "Development Issues" subprogramme and to link the issues and problems of human resources planning, development and utilization with those of social development and poverty alleviation; (c) the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s; and (d) instructions from the United Nations Headquarters advising the revision of the MTP to reflect the implementation of: (i) the United Nations General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the ECA Conference of Ministers' resolution 712 (XXVI) on Africa's participation in UNCED; and (ii) UNCTAD VIII, which took place in February 1992.

135. Noting that there were provisions for a second revision of the MTP in 1994, the Committee agreed that there was ample time to consider and introduce additional amendments. It also felt that human resources and social development in Africa were each sufficiently important on its own and should not have been merged. To that end, the Committee expressed a reservation about the recommended deletion of paragraphs 30.19, 30.20 and 30.22 which it felt, would dilute commitment

to human resources. It also felt that paragraphs 30.62 and 30.63 should not be deleted. In the same vein, it was proposed that advancement of women (Subprogramme 8) should be included among those accorded high priority in paragraph 30.15.

136. The Committee recommended that paragraphs 30.49 and 30.50 of Subprogramme 5 concerning LDCs should be updated in light of the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action of the LDCs in the 1990s adopted at the September 1990 LDCs conference and that the resolutions of the Conference of Ministers of LDCs held on 17 April 1992, in Addis Ababa should be taken into account. On the forthcoming Earth Summit (UNCED), the Committee noted that provisions were being made within the MTP (paragraphs 30.72, 30.74, and 30.75) to maintain the utmost flexibility with regard to follow-up activities, in view of the Committee's present inability to predict the outcome of the conference.

137. The Committee endorsed the changes, subject to the above comments.

PART VII

EXTRABUDGETARY RESOURCES AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN ECA

A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for operational activities in ECA in the context of recent measures taken by major funding agencies of the United Nations Development Programme (agenda item 10)

138. Under this agenda item, the Committee considered document E/ECA/CM.18/21 entitled: "A review of the critical situation of the extrabudgetary resources needed for the operational activities in ECA" and a progress report on the utilization of the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD) (E/ECA/CM.18/CRP.3).

139. The Committee noted that while extrabudgetary resources accounted for approximately 40 per cent of total ECA financial resources in 1985-1991, they were projected to decline to 25 per cent of the total resources in the 1992-1993 biennium. This alarming decline was attributed to, the fact that those United Nations agencies funding operational activities were placing emphasis on national execution of projects and were allocating less resources to intercountry programmes such as those implemented by ECA.

140. The Committee deplored the fact that, at a time when regional cooperation and integration in Africa was being given high priority, as exemplified by the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, ECA should face such a steep decline in its extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of regional projects.

141. The Committee underscored ECA's role as an executing agency for programmes and projects in the area of regional economic cooperation and integration and in the operational activities for development. Furthermore, the Committee requested United Nations specialized agencies to finance technical cooperation by providing ECA secretariat with the funds needed to implement projects entrusted to the Commission.

142. The Committee also noted that the alarming decline, in the level of extrabudgetary resources could also be partially attributed to the sharp reduction of bilateral assistance and contributions by member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development (UNTFAD). Noting that

bilateral assistance was being diverted to other regions of the world, the Committee urged the ECA secretariat to ensure that it remained competitive in order to position itself as a credible institution. Its operational programme for technical assistance and cooperation should mobilize and attract a significant amount of external resources. The secretariat needed to improve on its image and market its products more efficiently. Member States were invited to increase ECA's extrabudgetary resources by contributing significantly to UNTFAD in the true spirit of self-reliance. Member States were also invited to allocate a certain percentage of their respective UNDP national IPFs for the execution of the fifth intercountry programmes.

143. The Committee also urged African countries, who were members of the UNDP's Governing Council to ensure that the concern expressed by the Commission with regard to the low level of resources allocated to intercountry activities, was given due attention during the Council's deliberations. It reiterated its appeal for closer cooperation between both the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab and European States (RBAES) and the Regional Bureau for Africa.

144. The Committee requested the ECA secretariat to alleviate the financial crisis it was facing, through: the promotion of income generating activities; use of restrictive budgetary measures; and resource mobilization operations targeted at multilateral and bilateral donors such as the European Economic Community in the context of Lomé IV. The Committee also encouraged the secretariat to design and formulate projects and programmes meeting the criteria applied by United Nations funding agencies for allocating resources to the regional Commissions so that it could secure even more resources from those ag[illegible].

Any other business (agenda item 11)

145. The Committee also observed that ECA should also consider the role of youth in development.

146. The Committee also expressed concern at the fact that working documents often arrived late. ECA was requested to send such documents in good time to member States so that the Ministries concerned could study them properly.

Date and venue of the fourteenth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole (agenda item 12)

147. The Committee took note of the fact that in accordance with the practice of rotating the venue of the Conference of Ministers between ECA headquarters and member States in alternative years, the next meeting of the Conference should be held away from headquarters. Since no invitation had been received for a member State to host the next meeting of the Conference, it left consideration of the issue to the Conference of Ministers.

Adoption of the report (agenda item 13)

148. On 18 April 1992, the Committee adopted the present report together with draft resolutions and decisions contained in annexes I and II respectively for consideration by the Conference of Ministers.

Closure of the meeting (agenda item 14)

149. The Acting Executive Secretary noted that this was his first time he was participating as executive head of the Commission. He was particularly impressed by the Commitment of members of the Committee to African socio-economic development as evidenced by the seriousness and the high quality of debate. He was grateful for the support that the Committee gave to the new orientation for ECA in the 1990s. He pledged that he would do his utmost to implement the recommendations of the Committee. He expressed gratitude to all those who contributed in making the meeting a success, particularly the members of the Bureau.

150. The Chairman thanked the delegates, members of the secretariat and all the technical support services for their cooperation and support which had facilitated the effective steering of the meeting. He then declared the meeting closed.

Annex I

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY THE ECA CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. RESOLUTIONS

1(XIII). Strengthening ECA to face Africa's development challenges in the 1990s*

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by resolution 671(XXV) of the Economic and Social Council of 29 April 1958 and amended by resolution 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, resolution 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and resolution 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling further the various resolutions that have implications on the mandate and operations of the Commission including, in particular, General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations systems, General Assembly resolutions 33/202 of 29 January 1979 and 44/211 of 21 December 1989,

Noting with appreciation the endorsement by ECOSOC of the ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177 of 19 December 1990, 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and those located in developing countries strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and the revitalization process,

Reiterating the validity of the general orientation of the work programme of the Commission as outlined in the Medium Plan 1992-1997, including the identified individual subprogrammes,

Convinced that the many and important changes that are taking place in the member States of the Commission, the international environment as well as in the United Nations System as a whole will

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* Adopted with the reservations of Cameroon on preambular paragraphs 1 and 2 and operative paragraph 12.

necessitate new approaches by the Commission in carrying out its mandate and new relationships with its constituency and partners, with a view to increasing its impacts,

Having examined the indepth analysis made by the Acting Executive Secretary of ECA as contained in document E/ECA/CM.18/4 entitled The Economic Commission for Africa in the 1990s: A Policy and Management Framework for Facing Africa's Development Challenges,

1. Congratulates the Acting Executive Secretary of the Commission for the initiative he took to establish a Task Force to review and appraise ECA's policy orientation, programmes and management capacity and for the excellent analysis of the pertinent issues and useful and innovative proposals he has made;

2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that there is a clear and concrete balance between the research and operational activities of the ECA Secretariat and sharply focus all such activities of the Commission on the specific realities and characteristics of the African region, and on individual subregions;

3. Also requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to ensure that its activities are fully grounded in sound data and information systems, through the strengthening of the Pan-African Information and Documentation System (PADIS), which should be provided with adequate financial resources;

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to ascertain that the implementation of all subprogrammes contained in the work programme of the Commission is solidly based on the full attainment of the identified basic indicators of achievement of the objectives of ECA namely strengthening ECA's advisory role on socio-economic questions; promoting regional cooperation and integration; enhancing the efficiency of the public sector; promoting of private initiatives and entrepreneurship; development, dissemination and utilization of science and technology; ensuring a desirable balance between food supply, population, human settlements and environment; fostering human-centred development; achieving structural transformation and diversification of African economies; and promotion of women in development;

5. Welcomes the process of frequent and close consultations of the secretariat with the member States and donors through the regular briefing sessions including with their representatives in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

6. Recommends the establishment, within existing resources, of a consultative mechanism that would advise the Executive Secretary on the grouping of conferences along specific themes including scheduling and the preparation of conferences, meetings, seminars, and workshops, taking into account the need to harmonize them with those of OAU and ADB, to avoid duplication and achieve greater efficiency;

7. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECA to explore all possibilities to establish or strengthen the relationships of the Commission with African intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations specialized agencies, bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies and non-governmental organizations including, in particular, the possibility of establishing joint units or special programmes with the different United Nations specialized agencies, and the creation of a special unit within the ECA secretariat to coordinate ECA's increased joint activities with non-governmental organizations;

8. Expresses appreciation to the General Assembly for providing additional resources to the MULPOCs and consequently recommends that in conformity with ECA Conference of Ministers resolution 702 (XXV) on transforming and strengthening the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs) of the Economic Commission for Africa, the MULPOCs should be further strengthened through redeployment of resources and be given specific assignments with respect to technical assistance and advisory services for the execution of joint projects of member States within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations, in their respective subregions, and they should be enabled to act as the major subregional focal points to collect and disseminate information on all aspects of economic cooperation and integration;

9. Also expresses its gratitude to the General Assembly for providing the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) four additional posts for the 1992-1993 biennium thus enabling IDEP to contribute to the process of strengthening the operational capacity of ECA in meeting the challenges facing Africa in the 1990s, and requests the redeployment of resources which would enable IDEP to assume additional responsibility;

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of the OAU, to undertake a thorough examination of the problems and constraints facing the ECA-sponsored institutions and subsequently make concrete proposals aimed at alleviating the different problems and consider alternative solutions such as merging some of the institutions;

11. Appeals to bilateral and multilateral donors to increase their financial and other forms of assistance to ECA to enable it shoulder its responsibilities to the member States in the form of extrabudgetary operational activities;

12. Requests the Executive Secretary to undertake, as may become necessary, reforms in the structure of the Secretariat so as to achieve full consistence with the new orientations recommended herein and attain greater efficiency and increased capacity for the secretariat to serve as a veritably effective organ for the economic and social development of Africa;

13. Requests the Executive Secretary to report on the progress of implementation of this resolution to the nineteenth meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers and twenty-eighth session of the Commission.

2(XIII). Implementation of the treaty establishing the African Economic Community

The Conference of Ministers,

Aware of the importance and complexity of the establishment and successful operation of the African Economic Community,

Recalling its resolution 611 (XXII) of 24 April 1987 requesting the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank to provide all necessary technical assistance to the future African Economic Community,

Conscious of the concerted and coordinated efforts needed to mobilize the potentials of the subregional economic communities on one hand and the resources of the ECA/ADB and OAU on the other for launching the process of regional economic integration,

Convinced of the necessity of strengthening the subregional economic communities as organs of the African Economic Community,

Noting with great satisfaction the excellent working relations which existed among the three Regional Organizations during the preparation of the Treaty on the African Economic Community,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, the Secretary-General of the OAU, and the President of the African Development Bank to make every possible effort to facilitate the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community upon entry into force of the said Treaty;

2. Urges the three chief executives to further strengthen their cooperation by pooling their available respective resources to set up a coordinating team for the Joint Secretariat so as:

(a) To act jointly as the think-tank in the economic integration process of the continent;

(b) To channel and coordinate the use of the resources of the three organizations towards the effective implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

3. Finally requests the three chief executives to approach UNDP, the European Economic Community and other bilateral and multilateral donors with a view to making funds available to the Joint Secretariat so that it can perform its duties effectively.

3(XIII). Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields: Strengthening the role and functions of the regional commissions

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the terms of reference of the Commission as adopted by resolution 671 (XXV) of the Economic and Social Council of 29 April 1958 and amended by resolution 974 D.I (XXXVI) of July 1963, resolution 1343 (XLV) of 18 July 1968 and resolution 1978/68 of 4 August 1978,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 21 December 1989 on operational activities for development,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council decision to endorse the ECA Conference of Ministers resolutions 718 (XXVI) on the revitalization of the mandate and operational framework of the regional commission for Africa,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolutions 45/177, 45/264 and 46/235 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, in which the regional commissions should be enabled fully to play their role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and those located in developing countries should be strengthened in the context of the overall objectives of the ongoing restructuring and the revitalization process,

Convinced that the Economic Commission for Africa plays a vital catalytic role in the coordination and execution of inter-country programmes and projects aimed at strengthening regional cooperation and integration, especially by fostering the goals of the African Economic Community,

1. Reaffirms the continuing validity of the role of regional economic commissions as important organs of the United Nations for promoting the socio-economic development of their respective regions;

2. Appeals to the Secretary-General that in the context of the ongoing restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, due recognition is accorded to the vital role of the regional commissions.

B. DECISIONS

DEC.1(XIII) Industrial development in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, having taken note of the report on the programme for the United Nations Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II),

1. Endorses the resolution of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry adopting the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;

2. Recommends the adoption of the programme to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council at its regular session;

3. Requests the General Assembly to substantially increase resources provided to ECA for IDDA so as to strengthen its capacity to effectively assist member States and subregional organizations in the implementation of the programme;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to submit to the next session of the Commission a harmonization plan through the sectoral conferences of the UNTACDA II and IDDA II programmes;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary to do his utmose in order to strengthen cooperation between the secretariats of ECA and UNIDO, particularly with regard to industrial policy, programmes and project formulation at the subregional and regional levels.

DEC.2(XIII) Implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa

The Conference of Ministers, taking note of the report of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole on the progress report on the implementation of the second United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa:

1. Urges member States to establish national coordination committees and revitalize their operation;

2. Requests the General Assembly to provide the Economic Commission for Africa with the necessary budgetary resources to enable it effectively and efficiently carry out all the responsibilities and additional activities mandated to it in resolution 46/456, as lead agency and coordinator of the second Decade programme.

Annex II

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS FROM SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY THE ECA CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS

A. RESOLUTIONS

4(XIII). The African debt crisis (fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 17-18 December 1991)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling that the African Common Position on Africa's External Indebtedness adopted by the extraordinary summit of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity held in December 1987 remains the framework without which no lasting solution to the African debt problem can be achieved,*

Recalling further that the African debt crisis persists notwithstanding the various economic programmes undertaken by member countries, at times, at great socio-economic and political cost,

Noting that notwithstanding the various debt-relief initiatives that have been so far announced to alleviate the debt burden of African countries, the debt crisis still persists and constitutes a major obstacle to the socio-economic recovery of the African continent as a whole,

Aware that although some laudable initiatives have been announced by creditor countries, these, to a large extent, remain unimplemented and have been discriminatory against middle-income countries which continue to suffer from indebtedness,

Convinced that a lasting solution to Africa's external debt crisis remains necessary for the sustained recovery of African economies,

1. Welcomes the decision of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make alleviation of the debt burden of the poorest countries of the world a major priority area for the United Nations during his term of office;

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* Adopted with reservations from the delegation of Morocco.

2. Further welcomes the initiative of the Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa for having organized the Africa Debt Day in New York in October 1991 which proved a useful forum for impressing upon the international community the persistence of Africa's external indebtedness;

3. Calls upon member States to devote greater effort to debt management at the national level, while at the same time taking care not to marginalize the contribution of certain important segments of the international community, especially influential citizens, government officials and prominent persons from creditor countries in resolving the debt issue;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to continue in his efforts to make the African/African-American Forum and other like-minded organizations important avenues for bringing African economic and social issues to the attention of the international community;

5. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director-General of the African Centre for Monetary Studies, to continue to provide technical assistance to African countries at their request with a view to enabling them to find a durable solution to the debt problem in its totality including that of African middle-income countries;

6. Calls upon the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the next meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance on new initiatives that will have been taken to deal with the African debt problem (including debts owed to multilateral institutions) within a framework which establishes a linkage between debt, trade and development.

5(XIII). The role of indigenous banking and financial institutions in the mobilization of financial resources for development (fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17-18 December 1991)

The Conference of Ministers,

Concerned that most of the African financial institutions operating in Africa have been ineffective in mobilizing financial resources to finance the development process on the continent,

Further concerned that the imbalances between the volume of savings and investment requirements remains large in most African countries and have perpetuated the overdependence of African countries on external development financing,

Aware that the low level of domestic savings in Africa is partly due to the low levels of per capita income in most African countries, inadequate financial networks and substantial budget deficits incurred to finance unproductive investments,

Further aware of the need for complementarity between the implementation of broad macro-economic adjustment policies (such as economic liberalization of privatization policies) with a view to broadening and deepening financial intermediation in Africa so as to secure effective resource mobilization,

1. Calls upon African countries to put in place appropriate policies that will raise real incomes and savings of the African people, especially in rural areas, as well as implement financial reform programmes aimed at broadening and deepening the financial intermediation process;

2. Invites African countries, with the technical support of the Executive Secretary, if called upon, to carry out case studies with a view to identifying and eliminating obstacles to the mobilization of domestic and external resources for financing economic development in Africa and thereby reduce the continent's overdependence on external resources to finance this process.

6(XIII). Anticipated impact of new developments in the European Monetary System (EMS) on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries and the need to accelerate monetary integration in Africa (fourth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17-18 December 1991

The Conference of Ministers,

Noting the rapid pace of monetary and financial integration currently taking place in the European Economic Community and the decision by the Community members to adopt a single European currency by the year 1999,

Considering that these developments will have an impact on the monetary and financial arrangements of African countries by virtue of the relationships between the African economies and those of countries of the European Economic Community,

Mindful of the importance of coordinated monetary and financial policies in the integration process and aware of the debilitating impact of uncoordinated monetary policies on Africa's economic integration process,

Recalling the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and in particular its provisions on monetary integration,

Taking note of the preliminary analysis undertaken by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa to evaluate the impact of these new developments in the European Monetary System on the major macro-economic variables of African economies,

Further taking note of the possible impending association of the CFA franc zone in the new arrangements of the European Monetary System,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director-General of the African Centre for Monetary Studies to assist member States in monitoring the evolution of the international monetary systems, including the European Monetary System, and in evaluating their possible impact on the macro-economic variables and integration of African countries;

2. Also calls upon African countries to accelerate the ratification of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

7(XIII). Information systems for African economic development and integration (seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2-7 March 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolutions 498 (XIX) of 26 May 1984, 600 (XXII) of 24 April 1987, 658 (XXIV) of 9 April 1989, 679 (XXV) of 19 May 1990, 716 (XXVI) of 12 May 1991,

Concerned by the widening North-South gap in the flow of vital information as well as in the acquisition and utilization of information technology,

Conscious of the information needs to foster African economic cooperation, in particular through the establishment of the African Economic Community,

Bearing in mind the need to establish data networks and data bases, as specified in articles 42, 49 and 51 of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, signed by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in Abuja, 1991,

Recognizing the need for further transfer of and training in up-to-date information technology in the African region,

Noting with satisfaction PADIS' performance in the delivery of technical assistance to member States since the last session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers in 1990,

Appreciative of PADIS' efforts to improve its existing information system to assist African member States in their development efforts as well as of its efforts to sensitize them to the importance of utilizing appropriate information technology,

Taking note of the recommendations of the UNDP In-depth Evaluation of PADIS (1990) and the study of user needs presented to the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians, and Demographers held in Addis Ababa from 2-7 March 1992,

Recognizing PADIS' leadership role in the creation and implementation of harmonized and standardized data bases and information systems in the African region,

Noting with concern the financial situation of PADIS, with UNDP funding scheduled to end on 31 March 1992,

1. Urges member States in order to receive delivery of PADIS' technical assistance in information system development:

(a) To use their UNDP country Indicative Planning Figures (IPF);

(b) To consider PADIS in their pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development;

(c) To use, where appropriate, the financial provisions under the Lome IV Convention;

2. Urges also member States which are hosting subregional centres to accelerate the process of their establishment and support their continuation;

3. Calls upon member States which have not yet done so to promulgate national information policies;

4. Further calls upon member States to adopt policies related to the acquisition and utilization of appropriate information technology;

5. Invites member States to declare 19 November as "African Development Information Day";

6. Urgently appeals to bilateral and other multilateral donors to support PADIS;

7. Strongly urges UNDP to continue funding PADIS' technical assistance activities on behalf of member States by providing financial means through the Fifth Programming Cycle;

8. Requests PADIS to continue its leadership role in the coordination of development information and in maintaining and developing its information system to respond to Africa's pressing development problems;

9. Further requests PADIS to assist its network members, comprising national, subregional and institutional participating centres, in securing financial assistance to develop their information activities to more effectively support the development planning process as well as to strengthen their participation in the PADIS network;

10. Requests the ECA Executive Secretary to continue to explore ways and means of securing regular budget posts for PADIS in order to ensure its continuation;

11. Also requests the ECA Executive Secretary to continue his efforts, in close collaboration with the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank, to harmonize and standardize information sources and systems to support the African Economic Community and to facilitate regional economic cooperation.

8(XIII). Strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) in the 1990s (Seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2-7 March 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the adoption of the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and the Final Act of Lagos (FAL) by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU in Lagos (1980),

Recalling its resolution 705 (XXVI) on the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and the Final Act of Lagos (FAL) at national, subregional and regional levels based on the decennial review and appraisal of the LPA and the FAL,

Convinced that the objectives, priorities and strategies of LPA are still valid for the 1990s and beyond,

Recalling that the 1990s is the last decade for the implementation of the LPA,

1. Reaffirms its faith in and full adherence to the spirit of the LPA and the FAL as Africa's basic programme for socio-economic development and transformation in the 1990s and beyond;

2. Calls upon African countries to strengthen their machinery on the implementation, the follow-up and the monitoring of the LPA and the FAL at national and subregional levels and to ensure that the objectives, strategies and priorities of the LPA are fully incorporated in the objectives, strategies and priorities of national plans and subregional and regional programmes and plans of action;

3. Calls upon ECA, OAU and ADB to jointly monitor and assist in the establishment of follow-up and monitoring mechanisms of implementation of the LPA and the FAL to enable the national governments to evaluate adequately the progress accomplished in its implementation as well as at global and sectoral levels, national and subregional levels and to report thereon biennially with effect from 1994 to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU through the ECA Conference of Ministers;

4. Calls upon UNDP to coordinate and harmonize its efforts with those undertaken by ECA, OAU and ADB in assisting countries and subregional organizations in the development of the implementation, follow-up and monitoring mechanisms of the LPA and the FAL;

5. Invites UNDP and other donors to provide financial support to African Governments for the establishment of such machinery.

9(XIII). Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s (Seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2-7 March 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 683 (XXV) of May 1990 on the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s,

Noting with satisfaction that an Intergovernmental Working Group met in Nairobi in July 1991 to further review and elaborate on the principles, objectives and recommendations of this Plan of Action and formulate detailed strategies for its implementation,

Taking note of the report of the seventh session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, especially as regards the Strategy for the Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action,

Noting further with satisfaction the establishment of the Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development under the sponsorship of ECA and UNDP,

Concerned with the limited resources available while it is essential to have reliable and up-to-date data for designing, monitoring and evaluating short-term policy reforms and long-term planning to support the current efforts to transform and restructure African economies,

1. Adopts the Strategy for the Implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;

2. Appeals to all parties concerned, including African Governments, international organizations, multilateral and bilateral agencies and institutions, to use the Strategy referred to above as an overall framework for development of statistics in Africa in the 1990s;

3. Urges member States to set up as soon as possible Needs Assessment/Programme Review and Strategy Development Teams to draw lessons from past experience and to identify needs and priorities, taking into account local conditions and the state of statistical development, and to formulate draft five- to ten-year national statistical development plans;

4. Requests the United Nations Development Programme to provide during its fifth Inter-country Programming Cycle sufficient resources to ECA for the regional operational support to the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;

5. Calls upon other agencies to provide complementary resources to ECA for the regional operations in respect of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action;

6. Further calls upon all interested donor agencies to assist countries in establishing national statistical development funds, as recommended in the Addis Ababa Plan of Action, for meeting assessed statistical needs in accordance with national plans and priorities;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Commission to report to the Conference of Ministers every two years on progress made on this Plan of Action.

10(XIII). Short-term economic forecasting in Africa (seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2-7 March 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling its resolution 500 (XIX) of 26 May 1984 urging African counties to undertake and strengthen short-term outlook activities and provide subregional outlooks,

Recalling its resolution 575 (XXI) of 19 April 1986 in which it called upon bilateral and multilateral donors, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to provide financial assistance to individual African countries and the Economic Commission for Africa for the effective and speedy implementation of short-term economic forecasting systems,

Having noted the slow progress in the establishment of the short-term forecasting systems in individual African countries due to financial constraints,

Considering the importance to establish forecasting systems in African countries to serve as early warning mechanisms for countries to analyze and undertake short-term adjustment with transformation measures in response to external and internal disturbances,

1. Requests the secretariat of the Commission to continue to strengthen and expand its work on the short-term economic forecasting in close collaboration with national planning organs, African multilateral institutions and research institutions so as to ensure that African countries have the necessary tools and skills for effective economic management;

2. Calls upon bilateral and multilateral donors, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to provide assistance to ECA as a matter of urgency to enable it to implement short-term economic forecasting systems in African countries on a sustainable basis and to enable ECA to collect and collate the various country models for the benefit of sharing experience among African countries.

11(XIII). Women and access to resources in the 1990s (thirteenth meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10-13 April 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Having considered the reports of the Subregional Committees on Women in Development which have met earlier in the year,

Gratified by the efforts made by a number of countries to implement the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in Africa in the 1990s, and aware that the full implementation of the Declaration requires greater commitment on the part of member States,

Taking note of the elections that have taken place at the subregional and regional levels for membership at MULPOC and at ARCC level,

Commending ECA's efforts to establish a Federation of African Women Entrepreneurs,

Realizing the importance that an African Bank for Women can play in the advancement of women,

1. Commends the member States which have initiated efforts to implement the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in the 1990s and calls on those member States which have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary steps to do so;

2. Urges member States to step up their activities related to the progressive revision of their legal texts by drafting family codes, strengthening the schooling of young girls and the elimination of illiteracy among women; establishing a data bank for women; promoting trade between countries in products produced by women; and the creation of the necessary policy environment at the national level for the implementation of small and medium enterprises initiated by women;

3. Urges the Executive Secretary of ECA to reserve posts for women in each MULPOC in order to revitalize the MULPOC programme for women;

4. Appeals to members States to pledge a large percentage of their UNTFAD contribution to the respective MULPOCs towards the programme for women which should include coordination, dissemination of information, and the strengthening of national machineries for the advancement of women;

5. Expresses appreciation to those member States in which associations of women entrepreneurs have been established and urges those which have not yet done so to encourage the establishment of these associations;

6. Recommends that ECA should facilitate the establishment of the Federation of African Women Entrepreneurs and requests UNDP/UNIFEM to give financial, material and technical support for the setting up of a secretariat for the Federation;

7. Recommends to the Executive Secretary of ECA, in collaboration with OAU and ADB, to study the possibility of creating an African Bank for Women;

8. Appeals to the Administrator of UNDP to provide the necessary support related to the establishment of the Federation of African Women Entrepreneurs and the study for the African Bank for Women.

12(XIII). The role of women in conflict (thirteenth meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee for the Integration of Women in Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 10-13 April 1992)

The Conference of Ministers,

Considering the Arusha and Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women with regard to peace and development,

Recalling the Declaration of Abuja on Participatory Development: The Role of Women in the 1990s and its appeal to African Governments to put an end to internal strife, civil wars and abuses of human rights which are depleting the continent of its valuable human resources,

Convinced that peace is a pre-requisite for development,

Aware that many women experience the hazards of civil conflicts, slave labour, hunger, malnutrition and human degradation,

1. Urges governments to ensure that women are part of all peace initiatives and negotiations at all levels in their respective countries;

2. Supports the initiative of the Uganda Government to hold a Regional Conference on Women for Peace which will give a forum to women leaders of the region to propose strategies for the establishment and maintenance of peace in the region and propos programmes for alleviating adverse effects of civil conflicts on women;

3. Urges member States to facilitate the effective participation of women in the Regional Conference;

4. Requests ECA and the OAU to assist the country in the organization of the Conference and to report to their respective legislative bodies.

13(XIII). Science and technology for development (seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology for Development, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 1991)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling Commission resolution 248 (XI) of 22 February 1973 by which it established the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling also its resolution 385 (XV) which opened the membership of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology for Development to all African member States,

Noting the special appeal in operative paragraph 4 which called on member States to designate focal points for the work of the Intergovernmental Committee and to ensure continuity in their representation on the Committee,

Recognizing that since the establishment of the Committee in 1973, the issues of science and technology in the region have grown rapidly in importance and complexity, and that there is a desire for a coordinated approach in tackling these issues among the member States,

Recognizing that in view of the priority being given to science and technology as an essential tool for the proper exploitation of Africa's natural resources, many member States have set up Ministries of Science and Technology and the number of such ministries has increased,

Recalling that the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, which was signed by the African leaders at the Organization of African Unity Summit in Abuja in June 1991, places considerable emphasis on the role of science and technology in the future development of the African continent, and calls for specific actions to strengthen the technological capacities of the member States and to promote technological self-reliance;

Convinced that the attainment of the objectives of the science and technology component of the African Economic Community will require concerted effort between the Organization of African Unity, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank and contributions from the African intergovernmental science and technology institutions, and relevant international organizations in the development and consolidation of common strategies and policies,

1. Urges member States to take explicit measures, individually and collectively, to build up their endogenous capacities in science and technology;

2. Urges also member States to participate effectively in the subregional and regional initiatives with a view to achieve the science and technology targets in the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted to the next session of the Commission on the possibilities of the establishment of a Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development.

14(XIII). Adoption of the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II)** (tenth meeting of Conference of African Ministers of Industry, Dakar, Senegal, 29-31 July 1991)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/66B that had proclaimed the 1980s as the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA II);

Bearing in mind the report on the independent mid-term evaluation team of the IDDA prepared by the members of the evaluation team that had shown, inter alia, that the first IDDA had not attained the expected results,

Recalling resolution 2 (X) adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its ninth meeting held from 29 May to 1 June 1989 in Harare, Zimbabwe concerning the proclamation of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the formulation of a programme for the Decade,

Recalling resolution AHG/Res. 180(XXV) of July 1989 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity requesting, inter alia, the proclamation of a second IDDA;

Recalling further resolution GC.3/10 of 23 November 1989, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its third session which had also called for the proclamation by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth regular session of a second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Noting resolution 709 (XXVI) of the ECA Conference of Ministers on the United Nations Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) which, inter alia, had mandated the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth regular session, through the Economic and Social Council, the programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa together with the recommendations concerning practical mechanisms of its

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** Morocco expressed its reservations in respect of the fourth, ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs.

implementation and monitoring and including modalities for the mobilization of funds needed to finance the programme at the national, subregional regional and international levels,

Pointing out to the twenty-seventh meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers that due to the unanticipated postponement of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry from 10 to 12 June 1991 to 29 to 31 July 1991, it had not been possible to submit the programme of the second IDDA to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session for 1991 held in July 1991 and consequently, it had also not been possible to submit the programme to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth regular session,

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989 that had proclaimed 1991-2000 as the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and 20 November as Africa Industrialization Day,

Welcoming the signing of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community by the African Heads of State and Government of the OAU member States in Abuja, Nigeria on 3 June 1991,

Mindful of the important implications of the said Treaty, especially its article 48 on industry,

1. Decides to adopt a programme for the second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000) covering the national, subregional and regional components contained in document CAMI.10/6:ICE/1991/6/Vol.1 and Vol.2;

2. Decides to establish a ten-member working group, to be appointed by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry each biennium, comprising the members of the current Bureau and five additional members representing each of the subregions, to monitor the progress made in implementing the programme;

3. Requests the secretariats of UNIDO and ECA, in coordination with other appropriate international financial and technical agencies and in conformity with the foreseen mechanisms in subregional and regional programmes, to ensure the implementation of the programme;

4. Requests the Director-General of UNIDO to submit the programme for the second IDDA to the fourth session of the General Conference of UNIDO, through the Industrial Development Board at its resumed eighth session;

5. Appeals to the fourth session of the General Conference of UNIDO to endorse the programme for the second IDDA and to extend its full support to it by allocating adequate resources to UNIDO to assist African countries and subregional organizations in implementing both the national and subregional components of the programme;

6. Further requests the twenty-seventh session of the ECA Conference of Ministers to submit for adoption the programme for the second IDDA to the forty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly through ECOSOC at its second regular session for 1992 and requests the General Assembly to provide ECA with increased resources to enable it to effectively assist African countries and subregional organizations in the implementation and monitoring of the programme at the national, subregional and regional levels;

7. Appeals to African countries and to African intergovernmental organizations, particularly financial institutions, to take the necessary measures to ensure the successful implementation of the programme for the second IDDA and to give priority to the mobilization of their own financial resources for the implementation and monitoring of the programme;

8. Also appeals to the international community, particularly bilateral and multilateral funding institutions, to increase significantly their contributions to the industrial sector in African countries, so as to ensure a successful and sustained implementation of the programme;

9. Specifically urges international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, to ensure full support to the IDDA programme and effective implementation of the programme at the national and subregional levels;

10. Further appeals to the United Nations Development Programme to allocate, under its regional component of the UNDP fifth programming cycle for Africa (1992-1996), adequate resources for supporting the activities of the programme;

11. Requests the Director-General of UNIDO and the Executive Secretary of ECA, in co-operation with the Secretary-General of the OAU, to undertake follow-up actions for promoting national, subregional and regional activities in support of the programme and jointly submit biannual reports on the implementation of the programme to the ECA Conference of Ministers and the General Conference of UNIDO through the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

15(XIII). Human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa (fourth meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 18-23 November 1991)

The Conference of Ministers,

Recalling the recommendations made and the resolutions adopted at its third meeting as well as the decisions taken at its fourth meeting on the need to intensify efforts to improve on human conditions and human resources development within the continent and to intensify efforts to monitor the status of human resources planning, development and utilization in Africa,

Conscious of the many laudable initiatives taken by African Governments, non-governmental organizations and the international community at large to assist in the development and more effective utilization of human resources in African countries,

Noting with regret that, in spite of these efforts and initiatives, the indicators of human development have continued to worsen,

Aware of the nefarious consequences of such trends on Africa's prospects for socio-economic transformation and development in the long term,

1. Urges member States to give priority to the human dimension and to the implementation of an integrated approach to human resources planning, development and utilization, particularly as expressed in the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa;

2. Urges further all member States to redouble their efforts and make the necessary resource allocations to improve the quality of education at all levels, to increase the relevance of education, training and research in their institutions of higher learning in furtherance of the transformation and sustained

development of their economies, to promote the growth of employment in all sectors of their economies, to re-build development executive capacities, and to stem the tide of the brain-drain, and undertake reforms in higher education;

3. Commends the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Human Resources Development and Utilization for the elaboration of the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa and calls on it to intensify its efforts for the coordination of United Nations activities at the regional level in the field human resources development and utilization;

4. Calls upon the international community and the United Nations agencies to give full support to the strategy and priorities espoused in the Regional Framework for Human Resources Development and Utilization in Africa, make greater use of local consultants and expertise in development projects funded by them; and urges UNDP to implement the Pilot Programme on Integrated Human Resources Development;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to intensify ECA's efforts to assist African Governments in strengthening their human resources planning, development and utilization capacities;

6. Further requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to pursue, with vigour, the various measures instituted to assist in reversing the brain-drain, especially the ECA/IOM Return of Skills Programme for Africa, and to promptly implement the Regional Programme for the Exchange of African Experts on a pilot basis;

7. Calls upon the Intergovernmental Organization for Migration to increase its support to the ECA/IOM "Return of Skills Programme for Africa" operated by ECA within the regional framework set by African Governments, and also to contribute resources to ECA's Regional Programme for the Exchange of African Experts.

16(XIII). The work programme and budget of ACMAD for 1992-1994 (fourth meeting of the Board of Governors of ACMAD, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 11-13 April 1992)

The Conference of Ministers

Recalling resolution 540 (XX) of 1985 which decided to establish an African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) as an institution that will contribute in addressing the climate and environment related causes of African economic crises,

Also recalling resolution 621 (XXII) of April 1987 which established the Centre, adopted its Constitution and located the Centre in Niamey, the Republic of Niger,

Further recalling of the importance of resolution 651 (XXIII) of 1988 on the mobilization of resources from member States for the recurrent budget of the Centre,

Fully aware of other resolutions that have been adopted on the matter of making ACMAD operational,

Having examined the report of the fourth meeting of the Board of Governors of ACMAD,

Noting with regret that the Centre is facing serious resource problems in meeting the recurrent expenditures for the operations of the Centre,

Appreciative of the fact that the Centre has begun to realize some of its objectives by the dissemination of some of its products for the use of member States,

Concerned that despite these encouraging efforts, the Centre does not have sufficient financial resources from member States to meet the recurrent expenditures,

Determined to see that the Centre is fully financially supported by member States to meet the social and economic development objectives of the Centre,

1. Approves the budget of the Centre as proposed;

2. Decides that the initial year for payment of contributions shall be 1989, the year following the adoption of the scale of contribution;

3. Urges all member States which have not yet done so to ratify the Constitution of the Centre as soon as possible;

4. Further urges member States to support the Centre by seconding their scientists for short periods and at their expense to participate in the implementation of the programmes of the Centre;

5. Calls upon all member States that have not as yet made any payments of their contributions should do so as soon as possible, beginning from 1989;

6. Further calls upon those member States that have honoured some of their contributions but are still in arrears to pay them as soon as possible;

7. Expresses its appreciation to those member States and donors who have have honoured their pledge to support the Centre;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to investigate the possibility of member States making their contributions through the local United Nations Development Programme offices in local currency;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to report to the next Conference of Ministers on the implementation of the present resolution as well as the functioning of the Centre;

B. DECISIONS

DEC.3(XIII) Second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI): Amendments to articles (v) and (ix) of the Statute of the Institute

The Conference of Ministers,

Endorsed the amendments to articles (v) and (ix) of the Statute of the African Institute for the prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI) proposed at the second ordinary meeting of the Governing Board of UNAFRI to read as follows:

ARTICLE V

Governing Board: Composition and functions

The Governing Board shall consist of:

(a) The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) (hereinafter referred to as "the Executive Secretary"), or his representative, who shall be ex-officio chairman of the Governing Board as representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations".

ARTICLE IX

Financial resources of the Institute

"Without any prejudice to possible financing of core staff and recurrent operations of the Institute from regular budget of the United Nations, the Institute shall derive its financial resources from annual contributions made by member States as determined by the Conference of Ministers and from voluntary contributions by donors."

DEC.4(XIII) Seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for Science and Technology for Development: Establishment of the Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development

The Conference of Ministers,

Requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to prepare a report to be submitted at the next session on the possibilities of the establishment of a Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology for Development.

DEC.5(XIII) Seventh meeting of the Joint Conference of Planners, Statisticians and Demographers: Appointment of members of the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)

The Conference of Ministers,

Approves the appointment of the following countries to the Governing Council of the Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP):

North Africa: Sudan, Tunisia

Central Africa: Burundi, Cameroon

Eastern and Southern Africa: Namibia

West Africa: Guinea, Nigeria, Togo

DEC.6(XIII) Thirteenth meeting of the Africa Regional Coordinating Committee (ARCC) on the Integration of Women in Development

(i) Recommendation for the nomination of an African women Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women

The Conference of Ministers,

Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint an African woman to the post of Secretary-General for the fourth World Conference on Women, 4 to 15 September 1995, Beijing, China.

(ii) Appointment of the members of the Subregional and ARCC Bureaux

The Conference of Ministers,

Endorses the appointment of the following as members of the Subregional and ARCC Bureaux for the period 1992-1994:

(i) Gisenyi MULPOC

Zaire:	Chairperson
Burundi:	Vice-Chairperson
Rwanda:	Rapporteur

(ii) Lusaka MULPOC

Uganda:	Chairperson
Namibia:	Vice-Chairperson
Zambia:	Rapporteur

(iii) Niamey MULPOC

Burkina Faso:	Chairperson
Niger:	Vice-Chairperson
Nigeria:	Rapporteur

(iv) Tangier MULPOC

Morocco:	Chairperson
Tunisia:	Vice-Chairperson
Algeria:	Rapporteur

(v) Yaounde MULPOC

Cameroon:	Chairperson
Central African Republic:	Vice-Chairperson
Congo:	Rapporteur

ARCC

President:	Nigeria
First Vice-President:	Central African Republic
Second Vice-President:	Rwanda
First Rapporteur:	Uganda
Second Rapporteur:	Algeria

(iii) Agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women

The Conference of Ministers took note of the draft agenda for the fifth Regional Conference on the Integration of Women.